

Message Text

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TAGS: PINT, SP

SUBJ: GRUMBLINGS ON THE RIGHT

1. AN OBSCURELY PHRASED COMMENTARY IN "ARRIBA" (NATIONAL MOVEMENT'S NEWSPAPER), ECHOING AN EARLIER COLUMN ON THE FIRST DECLARATION OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT, INVEIGHS AGAINST ALL THE RECENT TALK OF "PARTIES," IMPLYING EVEN THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS TURNED TOWARD THE OPPOSITION LEAVING THE SUPPORTERS OF THE REGIME FEELING SOMEWHAT "MOTHERLESS".

2. THE COLUMNIST SAYS NO LAW HAS BEEN BROKEN YET. SO FAR THE POLITICAL GROUPS HAVE MERELY BEEN TAKING ADVANTAGE OF POSSIBILITIES. BUT HIS RUNS THE SAME RISK AS DID THE "APERTURA" OF PIO CABANILLAS (FIRED BY FRANCO AS INFORMATION MINISTER) TOWARDS THE PRESS. THE FORMATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES IS THE FIRST STEP ON THE ROAD TO PUBLIC DISORDER. ALL LABOR DISPUTES WOULD BE SETTLED BY STRIKES. THE WORKERS WOULD DEMAND CONTROL OF THEIR FACTORIES. IT IS, QUITE SIMPLY, THE ROAD TO SOCIALISM.

3. SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, JOSE ANTONIO GIRO DE VELASCO, LEADER OF THE "BUNKER" VETERANS' ORGANIZATION, ADDRESSED A RALLY OF FALANGISTS FROM THE CASTILE REGION (EL ALCAZAR, THE EX-COMBATANTS' NEWSPAPER CLAIMED 7,000) CALLED TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF ONESIMO REDONDO, YET ANOTHER PROGENITOR OF THE FALANGE

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KILLED IN THE CIVIL WAR.

4. GIRON SET FORTH THE RIGHT'S THEORY OF STATE AUTHORITY.
IN 1936 THE PEOPLE OF SPAIN "CHOSE" FRANCO TO REVIVE THE SPANISH
NATIONAL STATE AND TO WIN BACK THE PEACE. TO THIS END HE
HELD ABSOLUTE POWER. NOW, THE TRANSITION FROM FRANCO TO HIS
SUCCESSOR JUAN CARLOS IS A PASSING FROM THIS SYSTEM
TO AN ORGANIC DEMOCRACY OF INSTITUTIONS
IN WHICH THE ASSOCIATION SCHEME WOULD PLAY
THE ROLE OF IDENTIFYING POLITICAL TENDENCIES (AND
NOT OF REPRESENTING, IN THE SENSE OF POLITICAL PARTIES, DIFFERING
POLITICAL GROUPINGS). THE PEOPLE KNOW THAT, IN ORDER TO CONTINUE
THE WAR BEGUN IN 1936 AND WIN SOCIAL JUSTICE WHILE MAINTAINING
THE PEACE ALREADY WON, IT IS NECESSARY TO PRESERVE THE INSTITU-
IONS FOUNDED BY FRANCO. THE PEOPLE'S COLLECTIVE MOURNING WAS
THE MOST OVER-WHELMING AND DEMOCRATIC PLEBISCITE EVER IN THE
HISTORY OF SPAIN."

5. GIRON'S RHETORIC OFTEN STRIKES THE POPULIST CHORD OF
SOCIAL JUSTICE. HIS STRESS, HOWEVER, WAS ON LOYALTY
TO THE FRANCO ERA INSTITUTIONS AND OPPOSITION TO CHANGE.
HE ENDED WITH A REMINDER THA IF THE TIME SHOULD EVER COME WHEN
THE PRESENCE OF THE FALANGISTS IS NO LONGER WELCOME IN THE
STATE OF WHICH THEY WERE FOUNDERS THEN THEY WOULD NOT HESITATE
TO RETURN TO THE STRUGGLE, NOTING THEY HAD LEARNED
LONG BEFORE HOW TO BURY THEIR DEAD.

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